

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2011 MEETING

**In Attendance:**

**John Drake**

**Albert Grant**

**Al Floyd**

**Jim Halloran**

**Dick Sherman**

**Deb Talamini**

**Tom Talamini**

*Brief attendance:*

**Lois Noble**

**John Burnham**

**Absent:**

**Alan Baker**

**Joanne Drapeau**

**Ken Francis**

**Gil Hayes**

**Barbara Sherman**

**Dick Sullivan**

**Guests:** Michael Welty and Lin Welty

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:04 PM

**ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:** Under New Business: g and h

**MINUTES** of August 18, 2011 MEETING: Approved with 3 abstentions.

*Motion to move item h. under New Business to beginning of meeting – motion accepted:*

**ON-GOING BUSINESS:**

- a. "Mansions at Canyon Ridge" – Await next meeting for John Burnham to report on this.
- b. River Review / Water testing – Waters high due to storms. Dr. Kirsten Martin in attendance (item f New Business).
- c. Trail report – Work on trails on hold until weather conditions improve.
- d. Decal sales – 11 more sold at Taste of East Windsor event (total sold 123).

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. September 10th work party – Focus changed (due to weather/river height) to set up for Taste of EW event.
- b. SRWA – Action needed to update website on our trail progress. Dick reported that the SRWA annual meeting will be held at the Somers Senior Center - October 16<sup>th</sup> at 6PM if anyone interested in attending.
- c. Stream Walk (completion date 8/15/11) – East Windsor section of Scantic River successfully completed on time.
- d. Trail name – Still tabled.
- e. Scantic River State Park trail development – Nothing new to report. Alan Baker to follow-up.
- f. Bridge Plans – Robin Newton(Town Planner) working on it. Paperwork presented at town agencies meetings.
- g. Taste of E.W. – Dick reported that there was a good turn-out, with about 25 inquiries about the river's walking trails; and there was much interest from senior citizens.
- h. Norton Property – Dick stated that this is an agenda item at the Board of Selectman meeting October 4 at 7pm to hopefully finish negotiations about legal easement for property trail.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- a. September Mini Work Party – On Labor Day, workers found two trees down and cleared the area of them.
- b. Fall get together – Saturday, Sept 17, 2:30pm at Talamini's cottage (Lake Congamond)
- c. Current River Review – If anyone goes out on river, Dick requested a report on what section was covered and what the conditions are.
- d. Fun River trip is scheduled for October 1<sup>st</sup> (conditions permitting). An email notice will go out to all, so we can pass the word along if it's a go.
- e. Renaming of river activity areas – Discussion about official names to clarify areas of activity, instead of Melrose, Route 140; filter beds, Omelia, etc...)

- f. Dr. Kirsten Martin presented the water testing results in the "State of the Scantic". Barbara Sherman received an email with PDF report to be circulated to all members (via email). Chair will make some colored copies at Town Hall for distribution. Kirsten congratulated our commission for successful completion of the whole East Windsor section.
- g. D.E.E.P. grants – Dick inquired if Kirsten had submitted any recently. She had not.
- h. Michael Welte presented his idea for his Boy Scout Eagle project.....to build a kiosk at one of our trailheads. Dick signed his preliminary paperwork and now it needs approved by Boy Scout council. Discussion followed as to where the first kiosk would be placed, with note that Omelia and Cemetery Roads was the most visible spot. Future kiosks could be utilized at our other trail locations.

7. Public input: none

**ADJOURNMENT:** 8:13pm.

Respectfully submitted, Debbie Talamini/Barbara Sherman – 09/19/11